Steps to Improve the Functioning of Army Administration

3S6. SHRl ANANT RAM JAISWAL :

SHRl MOHINDER SINGH LATHER :

SHRl SATYA PRAKASH MALAV1YA :

SHRl DIG VIJAY SINGH :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(aJ whether it is a fact that gross discontentment exists among various ranks o{ army personnel regarding their career prospects dor to supersession of Army officers and /or certain other reasons :

(b) whether Government have at anytime examined Hie various grievances of the Army pt-rsonnel with regard to their service career, by any independent audio-Lily ;

(c) if so, what arc the detads thereof stating the measures taken by Government to improve the situation ; and

(d) if answer to part (b) above be in the negative, whether Government propose to appoint any independent expert authority to go into the various aspect of deficiencies of management in the various wings of the Indian Army for the purposes of recommending an efficient structure of the officers cadres to remove the grievance* of the Army Personnel .'

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) . (a) Government do not have any information to suggest that there is any discontentment among Army personnel regarding t'isir career prospects.

(b» and (c) As model employers. Government periodically review the service conditions and career prospects of al! their employees and make such improvements therein as are considered necessary. Cadre Reviews are a part of such exercises.

(d) In view of answer to (b) and (c). this does not arise.

Fire in Kirkee Ordnance Factory

387. SHRl RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR :

SHRI MURL1DHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:

SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be leased to state :

(al whether any enquiry has been s onducted into the fire in Kirkee Ordnance (Factory, Pune on 8th April, 1992 ; if so, Ht what level ; and

(b) what arc the findings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) Yes, Sir. Enquiry-has been conducted by a Board of inquiry consisting of seven Senior Officers, headed by tiie Controller of Quality Assurance (Military Explosives).

Co) The findings of the Board of Inquiry along with the comments of Ordnance Victory Board, are under consideration of the Government.

Cost over run in the production of T-77. Tanks

388.SHRI D1GVIJAY SINGH:

SHRl SATYA PRAKASH MALA-V1YA :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE, be p'rased to state what follow-up acticn has been taken by Government on the report f C & AG regarding cost over run in the reduction and induction of T-72 tanks, -idigenously produced by Ordnance Factory ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI HARAD PAWAR) : All efforts are being made to complete the Project within the motioned amount of investment, despite increase in costs of machines, both imported and indigenous, by way of intense re. and study of processes and keeping requirements of plant and Machinery to the bare minimum.

I/VF Plane crash in Arunachal Pradesh

389. SHRI NYODEK YONGGAM : Wiil the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

'a) whether an IAF AN-32 plane crashed near Nayapin (Palin), Lower Subansiri

District of Arunachal Pradesh recently resulting in the death of all 8 persons on board ;

(b) whether any inquiry into the AN-32 IAF plane accident has been conducted by Government; and

(c) if so, what is the outcome thereof and what follow-up action has been taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) As per findings of the Court of Inquiry, the accident was caused because the pilot entered a wrong, though identical, valley in the area due to an error of judgement. Adverse weather during the flight aggravated the situation. As a remedial measure, similar looking valleys in the area have been identified and information about these valleys made available to all pilots operating in Arunachal Pradesh: to prevent recurrence. Furthermore, the dropping zone/helipad marking agencies have been asked to ensure proper marking of dropping zones/helipads for facilitating effective identification.

Insufficient orders placed with Ordnance Factory, Jabalpur

390. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRA-KANT BHANDARE:

SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ordnance Factories in Jabalpur are facing acute prospects of recession, due to lack of orders ; and

(b) what are the details of the orders pending with each factory and for how long the same are sufficient to run the factories to capacity and what steps are being taken to deal with the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) The work-load available in some areas of production in the Ordnance Factories at Jabalpur is not enough to ensure full capacity utilisation. This is on account of the fluctuations in the Services' requirements, based on the changes in the threat perception and availability of Resources.

(b) It is not in public interest to disclose the details regarding outstanding orders. Additional work-load necessary for fuller utilisation of the capacity is planned to be secured by diversifying the production into other areas including non-defence requirements.

Firing Across the LAC in Kashmir

391. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRA-KANT BHANDARE:

SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the line of actual control between India and Pakistan in Kashmir continues to be vulnerable with continuing influx of infiltrators with or without arms and training and frequent incidents of unprovoked firings by Pak forces, obviously to provide cover to infil trators ;

(b) if so, the number of incidents of unprovoked firing across the Line of Actual Control during the past three months ; and

(c) the steps taken to effectively seal it against infiltrators ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) We are aware of continuing attempts by Pak trained militants to infiltrate across the Line of Control (LOC) and of incidents when Pak iroops have provided covering fire to assist Pak trained militants in iiifiltration/exfil-tration. Suitable measures are taken by our security forces to deal with the situation.

(b) There have been a number of incidents of exchange of fire between Indian and Pakistani troops along the LOC during the last three months. It would not be desirable to disclose further details.

(c) Government take all necessary steps to ensure the inviolability of the LOC and our border.